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Message Text

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TO CINCLANT

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121088

CINCLANT FOR POLAD

FOLLOWING REPEAT STATE 121088 ACTION LISBON INFO ALGIERS
BLANTYRE BONN CONAKRY DAKAR DAR ES SALAAM KINSHASA
LAGOS LONDON LOURENCO MARQUES LUANDA LUSAKA MADRID
MOGADISCIO MOSCOW NAIROBI PRETORIA PARIS NATO
USUN NEW YORK THE HAGUE 7 JUNE.

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 121088

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, PINT, PO
SUBJECT:U.S. POSITION ON CAPE VERDES AND PORTUGUESE GUINEA
REF.: A) CONAKRY 842 B) LISBON 2322

1. THE PRESENT STRATEGIC IMPORTANCE OF THE CAPE VERDE
ISLANDS IS NOW UNDER STUDY IN THE STATE AND DEFENSE
DEPARTMENTS (AS PART OF THE BROADER ISSUE OF DENYING
ALL PORTUGUESE TERRITORIES IN AFRICA TO FOREIGN MILITARY
INTERESTS INIMICAL TO NATO). THE STUDY WILL NOT REPEAT
NOT BE COMPLETED AND CONCLUSIONS DRAWN BY THE TIME THE
PORTUGUESE-PAIGC NEGOTIATIONS ARE RENEWED IN LONDON JUNE 8.
THE DEPARTMENT WILL HAVE TO TRANSMIT AT A LATER DATE ANY
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U.S. POSITION IT DECIDES ADVISABLE TO CONVEY TO THE GOP.

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2. ON THE QUESTION OF A REFERENDUM IN PORTUGUESE GUINEA, THE DEPARTMENT DOES NOT CONSIDER IT APPROPRIATE TO OFFER ANY ADVICE. US.BASIC POLICY, WITH WHICH GOP IS WELL ACQUAINTED, HAS BEEN IN FAVOR OF SELF-DETERMINATION IN PORTUGUESE AFRICAN TERRITORIES. WE HAVE THEREFORE WELCOMED THE START OF NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN THE PORTUGUESE AND THE LEADERS OF PAIGC AND FRELIMO. THE PRECISE MECHANISM FOR EFFECTING CHANGE IN THE STATUS OF THE TERRITORIES IS ONE WHICH THE GOP WILL HAVE TO DECIDE FOR ITSELF IN THE LIGHT OF PORTUGAL'S OWN NATIONAL INTERESTS AND DIFFERENT SITUATIONS IT FACES IN THE THREE TERRITORIES. ALSO, THE

GOP IS IN THE BEST POSITION TO ASSESS THE EXTENT TO WHICH VARIOUS LIBERATION MOVEMENTS IN FACT REFLECT THE MAJORITY WILL OF THE POPULATIONS CONCERNED. (FYI: WE DO NOT WISH TO BECOME INVOLVED IN WHAT APPEARS TO BE A POLICY DEBATE WITHIN THE PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT. A DUTCH DEMARCHE JUNE 6 REQUESTED US TO INTERVENE AND SUPPORT THE SOARES FORMULA FOR PORTUGUESE GUINEA (NO REFERENDUM) AGAINST THE RESERVATIONS OF PRESIDENT SPINOLA AND THE PORTUGUESE MILITARY. WE HAVE NO INTENTION OF DOING THIS. END FYI). KISSINGER UNQUOTE
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